

Preliminary Amendment
Attorney Docket Q79720
February 9, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A level-sensor device for a liquid-fuel tank, particularly for a system of LPG supply to the internal-combustion engine of a motor vehicle, comprising:
 - a floating member, which can move vertically within the tank following upon variations of level of the fuel in the tank; and
 - transducer means sensitive to the movement of the floating member, for issuing an electrical signal indicating the position of the floating member in the tank,

wherein:

the floating member has a body vertically slidably guided in a within the tank;
said transducer means comprise a vertically aligned series of electrical magnetic-actuation switches of a reed-relay type arranged adjacent to the floating member; and the body of the floating member comprises magnetic means designed to activate selectively one or more of the aforesaid electrical magnetic-actuation switches according to its position with respect to the aligned series of said electrical magnetic-actuation switches.

2. (Original) The level-sensor device according to Claim 1, wherein said floating member has an annular body guided on a vertical guide column that is engaged through the central opening of the annular body of the floating member.

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3. (Original) The level-sensor device according to Claim 2, wherein said guide column consists of a tubular element made of non-magnetic material and in that the aforesaid aligned series of electrical magnetic-actuation switches is set within said tubular element.

4. (Original) The level-sensor device according to Claim 2, wherein the aforesaid magnetic means consist of one or more permanent magnets embedded in the annular body of the floating member and arranged at angular distances apart around the central opening of said body.

5. (Original) The level-sensor device according to Claim 4, wherein the annular body of the floating member has a cylindrical conformation with a ratio between the diameter of its base and its height at least greater than 1 and preferably greater than 2.

6. (Original) The level-sensor device according to Claim 2, wherein the assembly consisting of the aforesaid supporting column and the floating member, which is installed in a slidable way on said supporting column, is enclosed within a cylindrical container having, in the proximity of its bottom end, at least one opening for communication of the cavity inside the cylindrical container with the remaining part of the space inside the tank.

7. (Currently Amended) A tank for LPG in a system for supply of LPG to the internal-combustion engine of a motor vehicle, wherein it is provided with a level-sensor device according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~ 1.